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43. (Three Times Amended) The package of disposable absorbent articles according to claim 48 wherein said stemlike projections are releasably engaged with said disposable absorbent article to provide a peel strength of at least about 20 grams.

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44. (Three Times Amended) The package of disposable absorbent articles according to claim 48 wherein said stemlike projections are releasably engaged with said disposable absorbent article to provide a peel strength of from about 30 grams to about 90 grams.

Remarks

The present application was previously on appeal. The claims on appeal were claims 35, 43-44, 48 and 50-57. In the Decision on Appeal mailed September 18, 2001, the Board reversed the rejection of claims 35, 43, 48 and 50-57 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and sustained the rejection of claim 44 as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). The Board also made a new rejection of claims 35 and 43 under 35 U.S.C. §103.

Pursuant to the amendments made herein, Applicants cancel claim 35 and amend claims 43 and 44 to depend from independent claim 48. The amendments are supported at page 17, lines 1-22 of the specification as filed. No new matter is introduced by the amendments. In view of the Board's Decision on Appeal and the present amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 43-44, 48 and 50-57 are presently in condition for allowance. **A Version of Claims With Markings To Show Changes Made** is attached hereto.

In conclusion, Applicants respectfully submit that the application and the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request favorable consideration and the timely allowance of pending claims 43-44, 48 and 50-57.

If any additional information is required, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (920) 721-2433.

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